

jc997 U.S. Pro  
09/96597  
10/01/01

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Toshihiro SONE

Title: IMAGE SCANNER FOR USE IN IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

Appl. No.: Not yet assigned

Filing Date: October 1, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Art Unit: Not yet assigned

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.97**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on a modified Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to applicant in order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. A copy of each of the listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98.

The submission herewith of any document is not intended as an admission either that such document constitutes competent prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive the right to take appropriate action to antedate any document that does not constitute a statutory bar and that is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application, or to otherwise remove such a document as a competent reference.

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### TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) within three months of the filing date of the application.

### RELEVANCE OF THE DOCUMENT

Document A2 discloses that a positional shift at the time of document reading is corrected by firmware. See Fig. 4 and the description between column 4, line 39 and column 5, line 37.

Document A3 discloses an image reading apparatus that reduces the correction memory capacity that may be required at the time of "white" correction. See Fig. 1 and page 9, paragraphs [0087] to [0093].

Document A4 discloses a control system that enables determination of a document density. See Figs. 5-8 and page 4, paragraphs [0029] to [0042].

English translations of documents A2-A4 are not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted documents (37 C.F.R. § 1.98 and M.P.E.P. § 609). English language abstracts are provided for documents A3 and A4. Applicant also notes that document A1 is a U.S. patent counterpart to document A3.

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

October 1, 2001

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SHEET 1 OF 1

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

ATTY DOCKET NO.: 016907/1309

SERIAL NO.: Not yet assigned

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Toshihiro SONE

97 U.S. PTO  
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10/01/2001LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)  
(Use several sheets if necessary)

FILING DATE October 1, 2001

GROUP: Not yet assigned

Date Submitted to PTO: October 1, 2001

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE      | NAME   | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|----|-----------------|-----------|--------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
|                   | A1 | 5,943,141       | 8-24-1999 | Tamura | 358   | 461      |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |
|                   |    |                 |           |        |       |          |                            |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  |    | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE      | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT |
|--|----|-----------------|-----------|---------|-------|----------|---------------------------------|
|  | A2 | 5-31868         | 5-13-1993 | Japan   |       |          | No                              |
|  | A3 | 10-164362       | 6-19-1998 | Japan   |       |          | Abstract                        |
|  | A4 | 11-205606       | 7-30-1999 | Japan   |       |          | Abstract                        |
|  |    |                 |           |         |       |          |                                 |
|  |    |                 |           |         |       |          |                                 |
|  |    |                 |           |         |       |          |                                 |
|  |    |                 |           |         |       |          |                                 |

## OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|          |  |  |                 |
|----------|--|--|-----------------|
|          |  |  |                 |
|          |  |  |                 |
|          |  |  |                 |
|          |  |  |                 |
| EXAMINER |  |  | DATE CONSIDERED |

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.